5 killed, several others injured in Kano building collapse



From Desmond Mgboh, Kano

No fewer than five residents have died in a building collapse in the metropolitan area of Kano State.

Witnesses told Daily Sun that the four storey building, situated at number 35 Abadi Street, Sabon – Garri, Kano, caved in after a heavy downpour in the state on Sunday evening.

Officials of the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), who spoke to Daily Sun said that they had conveyed at least, four dead bodies to the hospital, adding that eight others, including a policeman, were rescued alive, but with various degrees of injuries.

They added that there were still trapped victims in the rubbles.

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A witness, Fumilayo Oyetunde told Daily Sun that, "Yesterday, at about the 6pm after the rain had stopped, but was drizzling- we heard heavy noise and looking out from our home, we saw the structure coming down.

"The down floor of the building was actually used for shelter in normal times. But because of the rain that had flooded the whole of the street, many people had rushed in there to hold on for the rain to be over."

She said that some of the trapped victims were workers at the site; water vendors, people who were fond of hanging out in the street as well as innocent passersby, who were forced to break their trip for the rain to stop.

Meanwhile, Daily Sun observed that although there were several security officials and sympathizers at the tragic scene, rescue operations were very slow. The worst of all was that the heavy trucks and caterpillar, used to lift the debris, were not working as result of lack of energy.

As at the press time emergency responders were still at the scene trying rescue the trapped victims.